

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-14 SNM-02 INR-05 L-01 IO-03 PRS-01

/035 W

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R 211316Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9316
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
ZEN AMCONSUL ADANA
ZEN AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
ZEN AMCONSUL IZMIR

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, TU
SUBJECT: TURKISH PRESS COVERAGE OF POPPY ISSUE

REF: ANKARA 3638

THE TURKISH PRESS IN RECENT DAYS HAS CONTINUED TO GIVE FAIRLY PROMINENT ATTENTION TO NARCOTICS-RELATED STORIES. THE HIGHLIGHTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. LIBERAL DAILY MILLIYET REPORTED MAY 18 THAT THE PRIMIN'S OFFICE IS RECEIVING HUNDREDS OF CABLES FROM FARMERS IN MALATYA ASKING WHEN THEY CAN BEGIN POPPY CULTIVATION, IN REFERENCE TO A REPORTED STATEMENT BY DEPPRIMIN NECMETTIN ERBAKAN THAT POPPY CULTIVATION WOULD BE PERMITTED IN MALATYA (REFTEL).

B. IN A SEPARATE STORY, THE SAME PAPER QUOTED A U.S. "NARCOTICS DEPARTMENT" SPOKESMAN AS SAYING THAT A RECORD LEVEL OF OPIUM IS BEING SMUGGLED INTO THE U.S. THIS YEAR BECAUSE HIDDEN STOCKS ARE BEING RELEASED AS A RESULT OF THE RESUMPTION OF POPPY CULTIVATION IN TURKEY.

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C. ON MAY 20 MILLIYET REPORTED THAT THE OPPOSITION REPUBLICAN

PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) IS SENDING AN INVESTIGATING TEAM TO AFYON, DENIZLI AND USAK TO CHECK ON REPORTS THAT POPPIES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED BECAUSE THEY WERE CULTIVATED IN A WIDER-THAN-LICENSED AREA.

D. MODERATELY-LEFTIST CUMHURIYET ON MAY 21 PUBLISHED A FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE UNDER THE HEADLINE "EFFORTS TO PREVENT THE PRODUCTION OF OPIUM DERIVATIVES ARE INCREASING." THE U.S. AND THE NETHERLANDS ARE EXERTING HEAVY PRESSURE ON TURKEY TO ADOPT THE TECHNOLOGY APPLIED IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TURKISH ALKALOIDS INDUSTRY AND "INTERNATIONAL MONOPOLIES" ARE TRYING TO PREVENT TURKEY FROM BECOMING AN EXPORTER OF OPIUM DERIVATIVES, ACCORDING TO THE CUMHURIYET ACCOUNT. MEANWHILE, THE NEWSPAPER ALSO REPORTED THAT THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SECURITY HAS PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED 306 "DETECTIVES" TO THE SEVEN POPPY GROWING PROVINCES IN ORDER TO ENFORCE THE CONTROL PROGRAM.

MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, OPIUM, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, DRUG CONTROL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 MAY 1975
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ANKARA04009
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750180-1054
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750529/aaaaazqm.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ANKARA 3638
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <03 NOV 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH PRESS COVERAGE OF POPPY ISSUE
TAGS: SNAR, TU, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006